IT'S ALL NEW FACES ON 'TRUE DETECTIVE'

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT SEASON 2. PAGE 22

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Weekend, June 19-21, 2015 www.metro.us | t: MetroPhilly | f: MetroPhilly

Tragedy. A 21-year-old man was arrested Thursday, hours after allegedly opening fire at a South Carolina church and killing nine people. The massacre is being investigated as a racially motivated hate crime. PAGE 02

Sorrow in the South

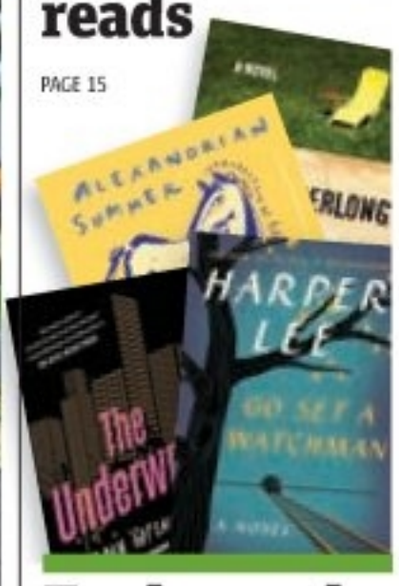
Mourners embrace in front of Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, South Carolina, the site of a shooting massacre that officials are investigating as a hate crime. / GETTY IMAGES

The Gallery up for $325 million revamp

PAGE 04

The 17 buzziest summer reads

PAGE 15



Eagles end minicamp, start vacation

PAGES 28-30

HISTORY UNFOLDS THIS SUMMER

1 AN ORIGINAL BILL OF RIGHTS

2 THE KENNEDYS

3 SPEAKING OUT FOR EQUALITY

NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

1 NEWS

Top 3

The best of Metro.us

1 Meet the Mipsterz, young Muslim artists who like to hang out and create

2 5 things to expect from the new season of 'True Detective'

3 Masquerade Ball brings together sugar babies with sugar daddies ... and their wallets

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Nation reacts in horror after SC gunman kills 9

Church massacre. The suspect, a young white male, is in custody after the shooting in a historically black church in South Carolina.

A 21-year-old white man suspected of killing nine people at a historic African-American church in Charleston, South Carolina, was arrested on Thursday after an attack that the U.S. is investigating as a hate crime.

Law enforcement officials arrested alleged gunman Dylann Storm Roof after a traffic stop in Shelby, North Carolina, about 220 miles north of Charleston, said police chief Gregory Mullen.

A witness told NBC that the gunman sat through nearly an hour of Bible study Wednesday night before saying, "I have to do it. You rape our women and you're taking over our country. And you have to go."

Mullen called the shooting "a tragic, heinous crime."

The mass shooting followed months of racially charged protests over the killings of unarmed black men, which has shaken the U.S.

U.S. Attorney General Loretta Lynch said her office was investigating whether to charge Roof with a hate crime motivated by racial or other prejudice. Such crimes typically carry harsher penalties.

"The fact that this took place in a black church obviously raises questions about a dark part of our history," President Barack Obama told reporters.

"We don't have all the facts," he said, "but we know that, once again, innocent people were killed in part because someone who wanted to inflict harm had no trouble getting their hands on a gun."

The Southern Poverty Law Center, which researches U.S. hate groups, said the attack illustrates the dangers that homegrown extremists pose.

"Since 9/11, our country has been fixated on the threat of Jihadi terrorism. But the horrific tragedy at the Emanuel AME reminds us that the threat of homegrown domestic terrorism is very real," the group said in a statement. METRO

A memorial near the Emanuel AME Church, where nine people were shot dead Wednesday. / GETTY IMAGES

Quoted

"I don't have any words for it. Nobody in my family had seen anything like this coming."

Carson Cowles, 56, the suspect's uncle

The suspect

What is known and what his family is saying about suspect Dylann Roof:

- His uncle, Carson Cowles worried he was cooped up in his room too much and too introverted. "I said he was like 19 years old, he still didn't have a job, a driver's license or anything like that and he just stayed in his room a lot of the time," Cowles said.
- The few images of him found easily online suggest he had a fascination with white supremacy. In one picture, he wears a black jacket that prominently features the flags of apartheid-era South Africa and Rhodesia, now Zimbabwe, from when the two African countries were ruled by the white minority.
- For his birthday this year, his father bought the young man a pistol.
- Those who know him described a withdrawn, troubled young man. Roof himself told a police officer who was arresting him earlier this year for illegal possession of prescription painkillers that his parents were pressuring him to get a job.

Rev. Mark Tyler speaks at a prayer vigil for the Charleston shooting victims at Mother Bethel AME. / CHARLES MOSTOLLER, METRO

Condolences. Philly mourns Charleston

After the arrest of Dylann Roof, the man accused of killing nine people and injuring three inside a South Carolina church on Wednesday night, begins the long and painful healing process.

In Philly, leaders and community members came together to express their sorrow for the lives lost in the massacre at Emanuel AME in Charleston. "It is unfathomable … that someone would sit in a church service for an hour and open fire. It's madness," said Mayor Michael Nutter.

An interfaith prayer vigil was held at Mother Bethel AME church in Philadelphia Thursday evening, attended by 400 people. METRO

Church history

Emmanuel AME traces its roots to a religious group of slaves and free blacks organized in 1791. The church was founded in 1816, the same year the AME faith was founded in Philadelphia.

- In 1822, one church founder, Denmark Vesey, was executed for his role in instigating a slave revolt, and the church was burned down.

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Submerged. Water main breaks, floods East Falls parking lot

A 48-inch, 120-year-old water main burst open Thursday afternoon, flooding an East Falls shopping center, NBC10 reported.

Televised images from the scene showed firefighters leading, and in some cases carrying, shoppers through flood waters in the parking lot.

The flood waters submerged several cars in the parking lot and poured into several stores.

The main broke at approximately 3 p.m. around Fox Street and Roberts Avenue. Rushing water poured from the pipe for more than an hour as crews struggled to shut off water to the area.

The burst main comes just four days after another major water pipe, a 36-inch main, burst near 52nd and Wyalusing. That flood damaged dozens of cars and homes. **DAN KELLEY**

Facts

Water mains in the City of Philadelphia:

- **Diameter:** 6 inches to 93 inches
- **Average age:** 70 years
- **Life expectancy:** 120 years
- **Cost to replace one-mile of pipe:** $1.3 million
- **Number of miles replaced annually:** 22
- **Average number of water main breaks per year:** 750

Bill signing paves the way for Gallery project

Swanky. A $325 million project, expected to start this summer, will feature high-end retail stores.

Shoppers explore inside The Gallery. / CHARLES MOSTOLLER

Mayor Michael Nutter on Thursday signed a package of bills that paved the way for the $325 million renovation of The Gallery.

The project, which is expected to begin this summer and open sometime in 2017, is the culmination of a yearslong effort by city and business leaders to revitalize the stretch of Market Street east of City Hall.

"This is obviously a once-in-a-generation investment in this city," Nutter said.

The newly rebuilt urban shopping mall will be called Fashion Outlets of Philadelphia.

Officials from the Pennsylvania Real Estate Investment Trust declined to identify future tenants, but said it is expected to include 125 new stores, including high-end retail and popularly priced outlet stores, with a mix of restaurants and entertainment outlets for good measure.

"This is going to be a project that will transform the retail environment in Philadelphia," said Joe Coradino, CEO of PREIT.

The path to finalizing the deal was not always smooth sailing.

The mall became increasingly desolate as tenants closed their stores or their leases were not renewed. Toward the end, entire floors were seemingly abandoned, and existing tenants had little clue how long the mall would remain open.

The project is expected to create 2,000 construction jobs and 1,000 permanent jobs.

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The Ernest Opinion

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BEING RACHEL DOLEZAL FOR JUST ONE NIGHT

I'm a bold and unapologetic feminist.

Through my various experiences in gender studies, I take pride in fighting for equal rights for women and fluid expression among male, female and transgender citizens.

Sometimes I push the envelope to challenge sexism and misogyny within my social circles. One night while at Penn, I choose to cross-dress as a woman to experience firsthand what the often problematic party culture was like for them.

My home girls were very enthused about it. They bought me a natural looking wig and even hot-curled it. We picked out a chic black dress and made sure I waxed, shaved and polished all noticeable signs of manliness.

We went to an off-campus party near Drexel. After the first hour, I realized how difficult it was to be a girl at a campus party. The constant catcalling was initially flattering but then got creepy when words became instant stalking that later became unwarranted groping.

The experience motivated me to further advocate for the end of rape culture on college campuses. Despite how voyeuristic the entire experience felt, I could never imagine taking another step into daily life of a young woman again.

And then there is Rachel Dolezal — a white woman who has now become a media spectacle for recently being exposed by her parents as purposely living as black in disguise.

There has been a week of ridiculous speculation either justifying her choosing to deceive as a black woman or condemning it as racial misappropriation.

Dolzal

Some even believe that she might be "transracial" — this convoluted transphobic concept that race, just like gender identity, can be intrinsically altered.

But despite the madness, I just think it's a sign of an identity crisis.

Society has constructed ridiculous standards of what defines the traits of one's racial and/or gender identity.

If you like hip-hop, wearing Jordans and eating fried chicken, that makes you "more black" than any of the other stereotypes pertaining to other races in this country.

For Dolezal, it was her devout passion in Africana studies, the NAACP and wearing braids that made her feel as though her identity can be suddenly distorted.

But who says she couldn't have done all of that while still identifying as white?

As I reflect back on my own deception, cross-dressing as a woman to gain an affinity for the feminist movement was unnecessary.

However, societal pressures will have you assuming that the only way you can invoke change is by walking a mile in someone else's shoes.

Perhaps we are consequently stepping on them more as a result.

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"The Vatican has evaluated the scientific evidence for climate change and decided that the world must act to avoid the devastation of our life-supporting ecosystem," said Mark Maslin, professor of climatology at University College London. / GETTY IMAGES

Activists, UN celebrate pope's call to arms on global climate change

Environment. Experts agreed the pope had shifted the debate into a higher gear.

Pope Francis' appeal to save the planet won enthusiastic praise from climate change activists, scientists and religious figures on Thursday as a moral imperative to governments to make 2015 a turning point in efforts to slow global warming.

In the first papal document, or encyclical, dedicated to the environment, Pope Francis demanded swift action to head off what he saw as looming environmental ruin, and urged the world's leaders to hear "the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor".

He called for "decisive action, here and now" to stop environmental degradation and global warming, squarely backing scientists who say it is mostly man-made.

Activists and scientists celebrated the intervention as bringing a moral element to the political controversy over climate change, which some conservative politicians and business executives — especially in the U.S. — doubt has been caused by human activity.

"Climate change is no longer just a scientific issue; it is increasingly a moral and ethical one," said Yolanda Kakabadse, president of the WWF international conservation group.

Christiana Figueres, head of the Bonn-based U.N. Climate Change Secretariat, said the encyclical provided a powerful impetus to governments to agree to a strong pact when they meet in Paris from Nov. 30 to Dec. 11.

"This clarion call should guide the world toward a strong and durable universal climate agreement in Paris at the end of this year," Figueres said in a statement.

Global warming is blamed by almost all experts on man-made greenhouse gas emissions for causing more heat waves, downpours and rising sea levels. The Paris summit on climate change aims to secure agreement that a rise in world temperatures will be limited to no more than two degrees Celsius.

At a news conference to present the encyclical, Cardinal Peter Turkson, a key collaborator on the landmark document, rejected prepublication criticisms by some U.S. politicians that the pope should steer clear of political issues.

"Just because the pope is not a scientist does not mean he can't consult scientists," he said, adding with a smile that journalists write about many things after consulting experts.

Latin America's first pope, who took his name from St. Francis of Assisi, the patron of ecology, said protecting the planet was a moral and ethical "imperative" for believers and non-believers alike that should supersede political and economic interests.

The clarion call to his flock of 1.2 billion members, the most controversial papal document since Pope Paul VI's 1968 encyclical Humanae Vitae upholding the Church's ban on contraception, could spur the world's Catholics to lobby policymakers on ecology issues and climate change.

REUTERS

Quoted

"It affects the lives, livelihoods and rights of everyone, especially the poor, marginalized and most vulnerable communities." Kakabadse

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Five things you need to know

1 Authorities arrest 243 people in $712 million Medicare fraud

The U.S. Department of Justice said that 243 people have been arrested across the country, charged with submitting fake billing for Medicare, a government healthcare program, that totaled $712 million.

U.S. Attorney General Loretta Lynch described the arrests as the largest criminal health care fraud takedown in the history of the Justice Department.

Those arrested included 46 doctors, nurses and other licensed medical professionals. The charges are based on a variety of alleged fraud schemes, the government said, including submitting claims to Medicare and Medicaid, the health care program for low-income individuals, for treatments that were medically unnecessary and often never provided.

The nationwide sweep, led by the Medicare Fraud Strike Force and the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, involved about 900 law enforcement officials. It's the largest both in terms of the number of those charged and the amount of money lost.

Many of the arrests were in Florida, long an epicenter of Medicare fraud. REUTERS

Attorney General Loretta Lynch / GETTY IMAGES

2 Brian Williams to join MSNBC

Television newsman Brian Williams, who was suspended for fabricating a story about being on board a helicopter when it was attacked in Iraq, has been dropped as anchor of the top-rated NBC "Nightly News" program, the network said on Thursday.

Williams, 56, will join the network's cable channel MSNBC as anchor of breaking news and special reports in mid-August.

Lester Holt, who has anchored the "Nightly News" show since Williams' six-month suspension in February, will be the permanent anchor of the Comcast-owned network's flagship news program. REUTERS

3 Twitter to let users follow live events

Twitter will start curating tweets on live events, the microblogging service said, as it plans major changes to make its real-time news feed more user friendly.

Dubbed Project Lightning, the changes will let users follow events instead of just people, and instantly upload photos and videos that can be shared across websites, social news and entertainment website Buzzfeed reported.

A team of editors will curate the most visually appealing and relevant tweets about events and present them in one place. REUTERS

4 Crews battle wildfires raging across California, Alaska and Arizona

Wildfires raging in three West Coast states have forced more than 1,000 people to be evacuated from their homes this week in blazes that mark an early start to what experts say may be a particularly destructive fire season.

The fires have already consumed more than 100 structures in Alaska, and were threatening others in drought-hit California and Arizona. In Oregon, officials imposed new 12-county restrictions on the use of flammables such as fireworks. REUTERS

5 US top court upholds Texas refusal to issue Confederate license plate

The U.S. Supreme Court on Thursday ruled that Texas did not violate free speech rights when it rejected a proposed specialty vehicle license plate displaying the Confederate flag, to some an emblem of Southern pride and to others a symbol of racism.

The 5-4 ruling will give states that issue specialty license plates wide latitude to decide which ones to approve. The court's four liberals were joined in the decision by conservative Clarence Thomas. REUTERS

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Russia talking with US on assigning blame for Syria gas attacks

Syrian men evacuate a victim following an air strike by regime forces in the northern city of Aleppo on August 26, 2013. / GETTY IMAGES

Chemicals. Government in Syria and opposition forces have denied using chlorine.

Russia said it has made some suggestions on how blame could be determined for chemical weapons attacks in war-torn Syria and will discuss the issue on Friday with the United States, which is pushing for the creation of a team of U.N. investigators.

The United States gave Russia a draft United Nations Security Council resolution to study six weeks ago that would establish an accountability procedure in an attempt to pave the way for council action against those responsible.

"If this is to be done, definitely there will need to be a resolution, but we're wondering what would be the most straightforward and rational way to deal with this subject," Russian U.N. Ambassador Vitaly Churkin told Reuters on Thursday.

"We have some ideas, we shared them with our American colleagues, they are thinking them over and tomorrow we're going to have another discussion," he said. "I don't want to go into details but I think there is a way to deal with this subject."

Syria agreed to destroy its chemical weapons in 2013, but the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons has since found chlorine gas has been "systematically and repeatedly" used as a weapon. The group does not have a mandate to lay blame.

The Security Council threatened in March to take action if toxic chemicals were used again. Ten days later, six people were killed in a chlorine attack in Sarmin village, medics said.

Chlorine is not prohibited, but its use as a weapon is prohibited under the 1997 Chemical Weapons Convention, which Syria joined in 2013. If inhaled, chlorine gas turns to hydrochloric acid in the lungs and can kill by burning lungs and drowning victims in the resulting bodily fluids.

"We envision a [accountability] mechanism that would fall under the U.N., but that would involve some cooperation with the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons," a U.S. official said on Thursday. REUTERS

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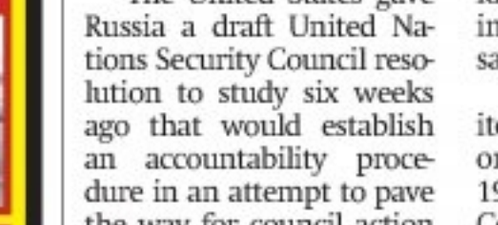

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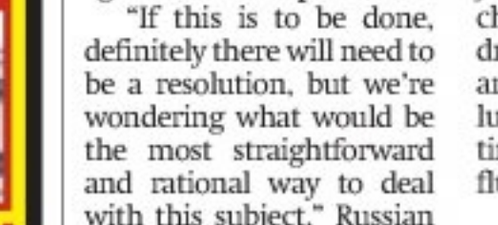

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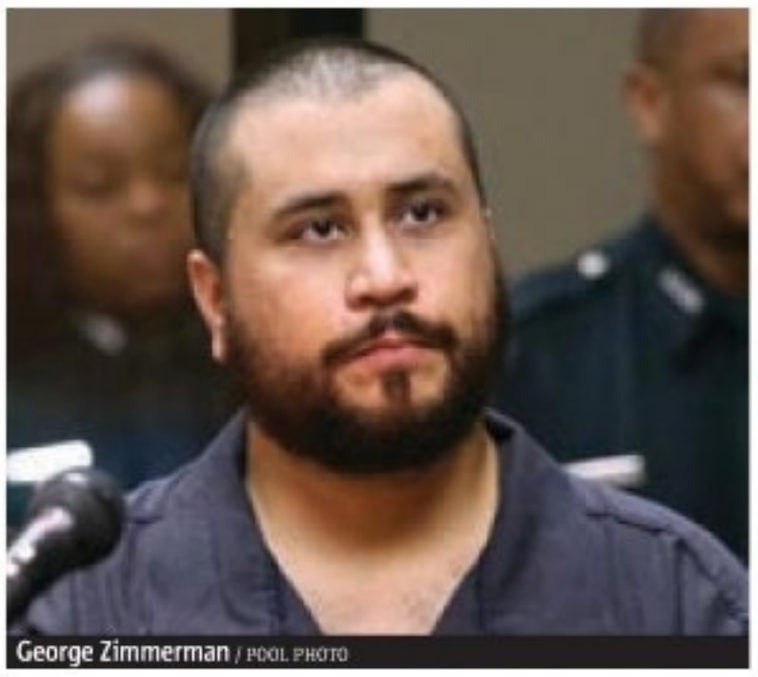
Accused. Zimmerman shooter faces charges of attempted murder



George Zimmerman / POOL PHOTO

The man accused of shooting at George Zimmerman, who was acquitted of murder in the 2012 death of unarmed black teenager Trayvon Martin, now faces an upgraded attempted murder charge in Florida, according to media reports on Thursday.

Prosecutors upgraded the charges against Matthew Apperson to attempted second-degree murder, and also charged him on Thursday with aggravated assault with a firearm and shooting into an occupied vehicle, the Orlando Sentinel reported.

Apperson had earlier been charged with aggravated assault and battery with a deadly weapon, as well as firing a deadly missile into an occupied vehicle over accusations he shot at Zimmerman in his car in Lake Mary, Florida, an Orlando suburb, last month.

Zimmerman suffered a minor injury from flying glass after being shot at through his car window by Apperson, authorities said previously.

The incident was the latest brush with law enforcement for Zimmerman since Martin's death. Zimmerman shot the 17-year-old in nearby Sanford in what Zimmerman said was self-defense. That slaying prompted civil rights rallies and drew international attention to Florida's controversial "stand your ground" law. REUTERS

Three dead

Tropical Depression Bill lashes central US states

Tropical Depression Bill pelted Oklahoma with heavy rains, triggering flooding that killed a 2-year-old toddler who was swept out of his father's arms by raging waters, officials said on Thursday.

One person in neighboring Missouri was killed by flooding caused by rains from the storm hitting the region and a woman died in central Texas when she lost control of her car while driving through the storm, officials said.

Bill, the second named tropical storm of the 2015 Atlantic hurricane season, is expected to dump between 2 to 4 inches of rain as it travels northeast through Arkansas and Missouri into West Virginia.

Some areas could see as much as 12 inches ,the National Weather Service said. It has issued a flash flood watch stretching from the Texas Coast into Illinois.

By Friday, the center of the storm is expected to be over southern Missouri and weaken over the next few days, the National Weather Service said.

Missouri Gov. Jay Nixon declared a state of emergency, due to floods, saying in a statement, "with more heavy rain in the forecast, we will continue to remain in direct contact with law enforcement and local officials as we work to protect lives and property." REUTERS

New Jersey

Man charged with conspiracy to provide support to Islamic State

U.S. authorities on Thursday charged a New Jersey man with conspiring to support the militant group Islamic State, the fourth person arrested in recent days in and around New York City as part of a broader investigation.

Samuel Rahamin Topaz, 21, of Fort Lee, New Jersey, was arrested at his home on Wednesday, the Justice Department said. A magistrate judge ordered him detained following a court appearance in federal court in Newark.

According to a criminal complaint, he had communicated frequently with Munther Omar Saleh, a college student from Queens who was arrested on Saturday along with an unnamed co-conspirator when they ran at a surveillance vehicle.

Saleh, 20, was accused of plotting to set off an explosive device in the city on behalf of Islamic State.

A third man, Fareed Mumuni, 21, was arrested on Wednesday when he tried to stab an FBI agent executing a search warrant at his home in the New York City borough of Staten Island. REUTERS

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*National Research Council. (2003) Elder mistreatment: Abuse, neglect and exploitation in an aging America. Washington, D.C.: The National Academies Press

New $20 bill. Will Harriet Tubman ever replace Andrew Jackson?

Women On 20s has sent a formal petition to the White House for Harriet Tubman to be placed on the $20 bill. / WOMEN ON 20S

Women On 20s has announced that Americans have voted for Harriet Tubman to replace Andrew Jackson on the $20 bill.

Women On 20s described the abolitionist and humanitarian as "Herculean" in an extended biography that captures the accomplishments and importance of Tubman to American history.

Considered by many the Moses of her time, escaped slave Tubman became one of the country's leading abolitionists before the Civil War. She returned to the South an estimated 19 times to rescue her family and others from bondage as a "conductor" on what was known as the Underground Railroad, an elaborate secret network of safe houses leading to freedom in the North. Later, with her intimate knowledge of the geography and transportation systems of the South, she became a valuable asset to the Union army as a spy and scout. Her Herculean accomplishments were attributed to extraordinary courage, shrewdness and determination. The Quaker Thomas Garrett said of her, "If she had been a white woman, she would have been heralded as the greatest woman of her age.'"

The organization has for the last several months been asking people to visit their website to vote for which American woman should be the face of the most-used bill in U.S. currency.

A little more than 600,000 people voted, and more than a million votes were cast in several rounds of what must have been a very tight race. See all the results here.

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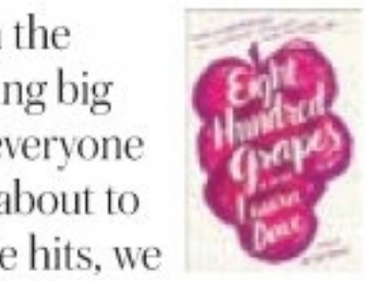
Your official summer reading list

From the upcoming big releases everyone is taking about to smart indie hits, we highlight the best of the best.

EMILY LAURENCE
@EmLaurence
emily.laurence@metro.us

Lazy days in the shade with a good book are one of summer's great pleasures, but in order to indulge, you have to decide what to read first. Whether you're looking for romance, suspense or to be transported across the globe, these are the books that will do the trick.

FICTION

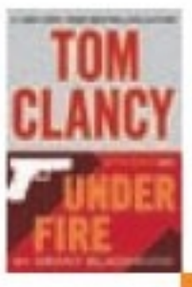


"Eight Hundred Grapes" by Laura Dave (out now)
When Georgia's fiance reveals a shocking secret just days before their wedding, she flees home to California, where her family owns a winery. There, she learns that her parents are splitting up and selling the estate. Pour yourself a glass of rosé and settle in.

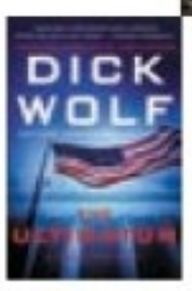
"Killing Monica" by Candace Bushnell (out June 23)
"Sex & The City" fans rejoice: The author is back with another juicy novel. This one is about a writer living in New York City (yes, really) whose books about a man-eater named Monica have become blockbuster hits. Newly divorced, she's on a mission to reinvent herself, which includes killing the franchise.

"Go Set A Watchman" by Harper Lee (out July 14)
Harper Lee shocked book lovers everywhere when she announced she just so happened to have an unpublished sequel to "To Kill a Mockingbird." The book features a now grown-up Scout who is returning home to visit her father, Atticus.

"The Underwriting" by Michelle Miller (out now)
Chapters alternate between several characters in this addictive novel about sex, greed and the dueling worlds of Wall Street versus Silicon Valley. Six 20-somethings are primed to make millions thanks to a crazy popular dating app, but success comes at a price.



"Under Fire" by Tom Clancy (out now)
Though Tom Clancy passed away in 2013, his suspenseful franchise lives on, thanks to co-author Grant Blackwood. This book follows the president's son, who sets out on a heart-pounding mission after an old friend delivers him a cryptic message.



"The Ultimatum" by Dick Wolf (out now)
"Law & Order" creator Dick Wolf's new novel is about a detective tasked with hunting down a serial sniper who uses drone technology. The mystery novel will keep you guessing until the end.

"Summerlong" by Dean Bakopoulos (out now)
"Summerlong" is both smart and satisfying. Don and Claire are college sweethearts living in a sleepy Midwestern town. But three children later, their marriage is in trouble and the young coeds they have both separately met sure aren't helping things.

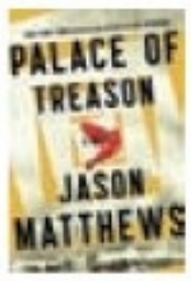
"Land Where I Flee" by Prajwal Parajuly (out now)
Prajwal Parajuly takes readers on a journey halfway across the world to India where Chitralekha is celebrating her 84th birthday, a landmark cultural event. Her grandchildren have traveled from their various homes in other countries to come celebrate and, of course, you know when family gets together, drama always ensues.

"Alexandrian Summer" by Yitzhak Gormezano Goren (out now)
Originally published in 1978 — but now translated into English for the first time — this novel focuses on two feuding Egyptian Jewish families. Set in 1951, it exposes sexual hypocrisies of the upper-middle class while hooking the readers in with a dramatic storyline.

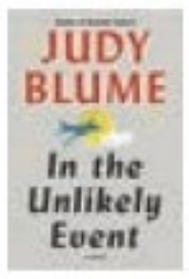
Top picks from Oyster

Seeing as how the most common time to read is while commuting to and from work, we asked Kevin Nguyen, the editorial director at Oyster (known as the "Netflix for books"), which three new releases he's most excited about. He shares his picks below:

"H is for Hawk" by Helen Macdonald (out now)
"Helen Macdonald grapples with the death of her father by taking on the challenge of training a goshawk in one of the year's most devastating and cathartic memoirs. This best-selling new release is available on Oyster Unlimited."



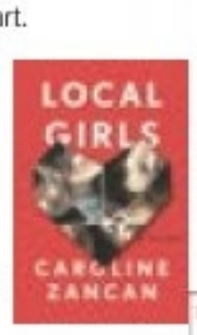
"Palace of Treason" by Jason Matthews (out now)
"There's nothing better than a star-crossed Russian operative and a CIA agent for keeping you completely engrossed on a flight, beach or your hot summer subway ride. This follow-up to the best-selling 2013 thriller 'Red Sparrow' might even make you wish you had more stops so you could squeeze in a few extra pages."



"In the Unlikely Event" by Judy Blume (out now)
"For readers who grew up with the classic 'Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret,' Judy Blume's new adult novel brings Blume's signature style together with an intricate multigenerational story about how people deal with love and loss."

"Circling The Sun" by Paula McLain (out July 28)
"The Paris Wife" author Paula McLain returns with "Circling The Sun," set in 1920s Kenya. Beryl is a young woman, both bohemian and bold, who conquers everything from racehorse training to commercial piloting. The only thing she can't seem to control is her heart.

Butler spills about his 10 years as a journalist in Cuba, largely covering the boxing scene. Even if you're not a fan of the sport, you'll be mesmerized by this up close look at Cuban culture.



"Local Girls" by Caroline Zancan (out June 30)
Caroline Zancan gifts us the friendship novel of the summer with this page-turner about four best friends, all 19 years old, and a hot movie star who shows up to their quiet Florida town.

MEMOIRS

"The Domino Diaries" by Brin-Jonathan Butler (out now)
Journalist Brin-Jonathan

"I Like You Just The Way I Am" by Jenny Mollen (out now)
Actress Jenny Mollen wrote this laugh-out-loud book with R-rated stories from her personal life, including hiring a prostitute for her husband Jason Biggs' birthday. Expect your fellow commuters to lean over your shoulder to see what you're cackling at.

"Twisted: My Dreadlock Chronicles" by Bert Ashe (out now)
Writer Bert Ashe chronicles his quest to grow dreadlocks while giving a cultural history of the hairstyle, from its origination in Jamaica to making its way to the States. His is a welcome, fresh voice, starting a conversation about black culture from a fun angle.

A whack chat with 'Dope' star Tony Revolori

Kiersey Clemons, Shameik Moore and Tony Revolori try to do the right thing in "Dope." OPEN ROAD FILMS

Tony Revolori delves into '90s culture and South Central L.A. in the Sundance favorite "Dope."

NED EHRBAR
@Nedrick
ned.ehrbar@metro.us

Tony Revolori first popped up on a lot of people's radar when he played the plucky and lovelorn Lobby Boy in Wes Anderson's "The Grand Budapest Hotel." His latest, "Dope," finds him in a far different location, playing one of three outcast nerdy teens in South Central Los Angeles.

You're an L.A. native. What was your conception of South Central before this?

I mean, I've been to South Central. I have friends who live there. But I had no thoughts. I knew what the place was, I knew how it goes, but it's not something anyone ever talks about. And I think that's what's so great about this film ... it's bringing light to this place in a way that's not so preachy and shoved down your throat. It's great to see that people are able to know about this place. Like, I went to Cannes and people were like, "Is this a real place?"

How much of a '90s hip-hop aficionado were you before this?

I was OK with hip-hop. I was great with '90s music in general — like rock and roll, that was my jam. But I delved deeper into the '90s hip-hop groove for this film. I'm glad I had the opportunity to have someone say, "You're going to get paid to do this."

How about some L.A. and New York comparisons?

I'm going to go to New York very soon to do a play. It's called "Mercury Fur," being brought over from London. I love theater. I did a play called "A Very Merry Unauthorized Children's Scientology Pageant," so now I'm banned from any Scientology building — which is fine with me, after seeing "Going Clear."

Have you spent much time in New York before?

I spent a very miniscule amount of time, but never really stayed there before. I'm looking forward to it but I'm kind of scared. I'm scared of New York.

You can call him Zero if you want to. GETTY IMAGES

New York is scary. I'm superscared of the subway system. I think I'm going to get off in the wrong spot and I'm going to go up and there's going to be some gangsters who are going to, like, shoot me because I'm in the wrong neighborhood or something like that. That's where my stupid, creepy mind goes to — you're going to fall asleep and wake up at the end of the line and there's going to be some clown at the end and he's going to come with a knife and he's just going to murder you. Which should be a horror movie, guys.

I would go see "Murder Clown."

Or how about "Subway Clown"? And then we have Jared from Subway be the murder clown!

Do you find yourself getting recognized a lot for "The Grand Budapest Hotel"?

Yeah, pretty much that's the only thing I get recognized for. I got this one aggressive girl today on Instagram. She commented on every single one of my pictures — like, "I love you," "Marry me," "Follow me." I posted a picture from my birthday of me Titanic-ing my brother, and she said the weirdest thing. I was like, "What the hell? What is going on here? This is not OK. Someone save me now."

Guys, this is gold! The s— writes itself.

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9PM Don't Call Me Francis
10PM DJ Eric Vanderslice

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8PM Conklin's Comedy Night

THURSDAY, JUNE 25
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The six boys of "The Wolfpack" like to while away their days recreating their favorite movies. MAGNOLIA PICTURES

'The Wolfpack' is both a happier and grimmer 'Grey Gardens' doc

MATT PRIGGE
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All we know when "The Wolfpack" begins is that its teenage subjects — six boys living in a Lower East Side high-rise — really like Quentin Tarantino. We soon find out they're also into Christopher Nolan. Like many cinephiles, they channel their passion into acting out scenes from "Pulp Fiction," "Reservoir Dogs" and the latest "Batman" film. So far so supernerdy, though there's also this fact: Their parents, for the most part, have long forbidden them from going outside. Some years they'll hit the streets only once. Other years they won't go out at all.

"The Wolfpack" sets us up to be alarmed. Eventually it becomes clear that, as a lifeline to humanity, movies — windows into other worlds and cultures and ideas — aren't a bad way to go. Even their habit of recreating what they love is the first step to stoking artistic sensibilities. In one sense, they're almost better than teens who are imprisoned by smartphones. On the other hand, they're still mostly stuck in a cavernous apartment, with a dad who seems to be some kind of dictator.

There's a sense that director Crystal Moselle doesn't want to pry, that she'll only show and delve into what her subjects want us to know. The absences only make us imagine more than we're shown, and make it a more disquieting film, perhaps more than it should be. When things take a turn for the better, the boys one by one heading outside, sometimes for good, it couldn't be more relieving — like a "Grey Gardens" that ends with Edie at some Hamptons shindig.

'The Wolfpack'

Director: Crystal Moselle
Genre: Documentary
Rating: NR

• • • • •

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Richard Avedon: Family Affairs is based on a 2014 exhibition organized by the Israel Museum, Jerusalem. Major support for this exhibition has been provided by the David Berg Foundation, the Director's Fund, and Lynne and Harold Honickman. Additional support has been provided by yhe Abstraction Fund, Gagosian Gallery, Macy's, the Robert Mapplethorpe Foundation, Annette Y. and Jack M. Friedland, the Consulate General of Israel to the Mid-Atlantic Region, Gwen and Alan Goodman, and Marsha and Stephen Silberstein. *Image: Allen Ginsberg's Family, Paterson, New Jersey, May 3, 1970. Photograph by Richard Avedon. © Richard Avedon Foundation. Gift of the American Contemporary Art Foundation, Leonard A. Lauder, President, to American Friends of the Israel Museum.*

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Sundance smash is all about White People Problems

Olivia Cooke and RJ Cyler flank Thomas Mann, center, the real focus of "Me and Earl and the Dying Girl." ANNE MARIE FOX

MATT PRIGGE
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matt.prigge@metro.us

'Me and Earl and the Dying Girl'

Director: Alfonso Gomez-Rejon
Stars: Thomas Mann, Olivia Cooke
Rating: PG-13

●●●●●

"Me and Earl and the Dying Girl" plays like the world's final White People Problems missive. This quirky dramedy follows the relatively minor ailments plaguing Greg (Thomas Mann), a glum loner at an increasingly diverse high school. He has few friends, and the one he gets — dying girl Rachel (Olivia Cooke) — only enters his life by force. Rachel, who again is dying, would make an interesting protagonist, as would the closest thing Greg has to a pal, Earl (RJ Cyler), a black kid from a low-income home.

Instead the focus stays on the white dude, whose main problem is that he's not sure if he wants to go to college and who suffers from intimacy issues. This leaves Rachel reduced to a deadpan machine, rattling off withering observations in monotone. Still, she fares better than Earl, a broad stereotype out of a '30s Hollywood film whose main character trait is he loves to talk about "dem titties."

If you need to know what hipster racism is, then here's a great example: a film that trades on ignorant stereotypes but thinks it's above it because it's enlightened. It wants you to think it's not stupid enough to just be another film in which nonwhite males exist solely to help a white male. It tries to trick you by being technically well-made and -acted, and by touting its good taste in music (lots of Brian Eno) and movies (deepish cuts like Luchino Visconti's "Death in Venice," plus experimental documentarian Su Friedrich).

The first half seems like it might be self-aware — a satire in which a dude learns about his cosmic irrelevancy. By the second half, it's clear this was always about one guy realizing the world revolves around him. The title is six words too long.

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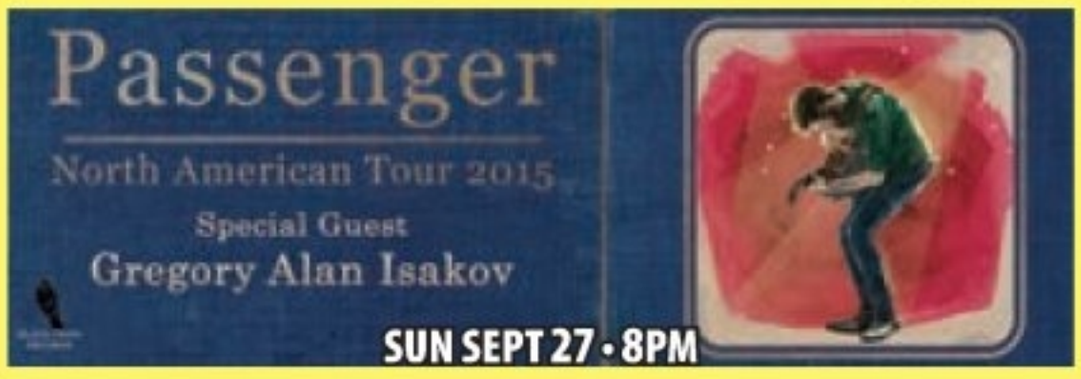

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Shameik Moore, with Tony Revolori and Kiersey Clemons in the background, plays an Inglewood teen who gets involved with a drug fiasco in the comedy "Dope." OPEN ROAD FILMS

'Dope'

●●●●●

"Dope" is a disarmingly fun-loving update on, of all things, the 1990s rash of grim hood movies, like "Boyz n the Hood," "Juice" and "South Central." Its hero is a geek: Inglewood teen Malcolm (Shameik Moore) loves '90s hip-hop so much he dresses like it's 1991 and even sports a hi-top fade. He gets involved in exactly the kind of tragedy once played for drama, namely an MDMA fiasco involving a local dealer (A$AP Rocky). The only thing is it's played as raucous, goofy comedy. Malcolm's life and those of his equally dorky friends (Tony Revolori and Kiersey Clemons) and whoever else accidentally gets involved are routinely in danger, but the tone stays resolutely upbeat and zany, even while acknowledging that this is, minus things like a public urination gag, all too real.

Indeed, "Dope" has a lot on its mind — a lot of grievances and satirical jabs it can't resist throwing out there. It finds room for digs at white kids who want nothing more than to drop the n-word. It even has a diss on Starbucks that's almost as dated as the records Malcolm adores. All along "Dope" sticks to its comedic tone, but the jokes have real force and real anger underneath them. It's not as sharp as the superficially similar "Dear White People," but that's because it trades some edge for populist thrills — but only some edge. MP

'Inside Out' will make adults cry approximately 100,000 times

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Set inside the mind of an 11-year-old girl, the latest from Pixar hangs with five emotions duking it out for control. When two of them — Joy (voice of Amy Poehler) and Sadness (Phyllis Smith) — accidentally wind up in a remote part of her brain, the little girl spirals into a preadolescent depression from which she may never escape.

Much like "Herman's Head," Pixar's "Inside Out" features creatures representing emotions living inside a person's brain. PIXAR, DISNEY

'Inside Out'

Director: Pete Docter
Voices of: Amy Poehler, Phyllis Smith
Rating: PG

●●●●●

The lowdown: At their best, no one is better than Pixar at bridging the gap between children and adults. They make films that work on one level for kids, and another for the people who brought them to the movies. So "Inside Out," their 15th feature, is an odd duck: It's an animated film that is more or less exclusively for adults. It's such a devastating look at the death of childhood that it's not clear what very, very young viewers will get out of it, if anything. There are pretty colors and fuzzy characters often doing wacky things. There's a funny imaginary friend (Richard Kind) who is part talking elephant, part dolphin. But even he gets bottomlessly sad.

There are a lot of jokes and clever ideas, plus hilarious journeys to the subconscious and, best of all, the area for abstract thought. But on the flipside of every gag lies overwhelming sadness. Like most toons, "Inside Out" has a homily, only it's not a comforting one, though it is one that is genuinely sage. It's also a bummer, but a beautiful bummer. Pixar director Pete Docter previously made "Up," and "Inside Out" plays like that film's opening true love montage stretched, with no shortage of awe-inspiring sadism, to feature length.

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My name is Earl

RJ Cyler debuts in the Sundance hit "Me and Earl and the Dying Girl."

The Dying Girl (Olivia Cooke) and Earl (RJ Cyler) hang in "Me and Earl and the Dying Girl." FOX SEARCHLIGHT

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Making movies has been completely ruined for newcomer RJ Cyler. His very first feature, "Me and Earl and the Dying Girl" — he plays Earl — went on to win the Grand Jury Prize and the Audience Award at Sundance, where it had its world premiere. But they can't all be like that, right?

This is your first movie, and it won Sundance.

I literally didn't know what Sundance was. I didn't know that movies went to film festivals. I literally thought you shot a movie, it came out in theaters or ended up on Netflix, or they just didn't come out at all. So then when they told me about Sundance, and I read up about it, I was like, "Holy crap." And then we made it into Sundance — that was good enough for me. Then all the rest is just the icing on the cake to make it much sweeter; it was so good.

Did they warn you that they don't all do that?

I was like, "Man, we didn't have to set the bar so high." I can't go back to Sundance again with another movie and get the same experience, OK? They have literally ruined Sundance for RJ. How dare you.

How much of Earl as a character was on the page, and how much did you add?

Really, Earl and RJ are the same people. It's just that Earl is more controlled and mature, in a sense. I still have a lot of childishness that I put in my everyday life, because I don't like to grow up too fast, you know? That's my acting technique, being able to tap into my inner child. Imagination is very active and stuff when you're younger, but as you get older and you start to learn different stuff and go through life and go through stuff, you lose a sense of it a little bit. When it came to Earl, I was able to just grab different nuggets.

What surprised you about making a film for the first time?

A lot of things. Alfonso [Gomez-Rejon]'s camera angles, oh my goodness. To walk into a room and see a camera hanging from the ceiling? Yeah, that took RJ to another place. This is my first film so I don't know what all this dolly work is and contraptions that they're building on set and tracks and stuff. It was just a lot.

Cyler GETTY IMAGES

And you've got other stuff going on besides acting.

Yeah, I'm still DJing. I really want to DJ at a big party. If I could DJ at Ultra or something, it would blow my mind. I still play the drums and the piano, too. I'm trying to get more musically inclined with different instruments like the guitar and the violin and stuff like that. I just want to find the right teacher. I want Jamie Foxx to teach me. I love the way that he approaches music. I know Jimi Hendrix would never be able to tutor me, but Jamie Foxx is a person that I would love to model my musical approach after.

Have you called him to ask for lessons?

I haven't. I left a few Instagram comments. "I don't know if you're looking for, you know, a protege. I promise I would not make your name look bad. I could be Little Jamie if you're Big Jamie." He didn't respond. He has too many followers. I've got to figure out another way.

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Five things to expect from the new season of 'True Detective'

"True Detective" premieres this Sunday at 9 p.m. on HBO. LACEY TERRELL, HBO

There are women now

Creator Nic Pizzolatto seems to have listened to the criticism about the first season's lack of three-dimensional female characters. This time through, McAdams plays as big a role as the men, though it's worth noting that both she and Michelle Monaghan, Season 1's female lead, both make their first appearances onscreen in their underwear. McAdams is the quintessential tough, gritty cop, marooned in a field of men who seem fated to disappoint her and earn a withering side eye.

How does the show go on without its two famous stars?

LISA WEIDENFELD
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While there have been plenty of feverishly anticipated TV shows returning this year, the second season of "True Detective" might have had the heaviest expectations placed on it. The first season — which benefited from what we've all come to know as the McConaissance (Matthew McConaughey's series of indelible performances) — was an intense, philosophical take on the buddy cop formula. The new season, with an entirely new cast, new location and new crime, has some big shoes to fill. Say goodbye to the flashback structure, and say hello to an obsession with the ways people have sex, think about sex and plan to have sex. Here's what else you can expect.

Heading west

Instead of the first season's Louisiana locale, the show is set in sunny, dissipated Vinci, California. It's a city of few residents, toxic pollution and a whole lot of corruption. The ostensible crime that occurs (the murder of a city manager) is only a tiny pawn in the battle between the various individuals and groups trying to get a piece of the pie, and the potentially cleaner government officials striving to investigate them.

Things get a bit dry

Sure, the first season had an incredibly ornate serial killer murder scene to start things off, but what about a complicated land deal gone awry? There's a new rail line going in, and plenty of corrupt people lining up to benefit, including Vince Vaughn, who's really trying to go straight. Unfortunately, the murder victim had almost all of his money, and seems to have failed to actually invest it. There are shades of Justin Theroux's character from "Mulholland Dr." in Vaughn's desperate efforts to figure out what happened.

Remember the '70s?

The show certainly does. From the old beat-up cars to Colin Farrell's serious 'stache, the whole thing has the feel of a hard-boiled 1970s detective novel. The sun shines through a permanent Instagram filter, and the moments when those old cars rejoin normal traffic serve as a jarring reminder that this takes place in the modern era.

A dark, wicked sense of humor

There are jokes, though don't expect many from Vaughn, the ostensible comedian of the bunch. He's stuck with the more philosophical lines this season, but struggles with them more than McConaughey did. But there are plenty of throwaway lines that have the cadence and appearance of jokes, despite the fact that no one seems willing to crack a smile. They're more often greeted by a sardonic look from one of the four leads — Vaughn, along with Farrell, Rachel McAdams and Taylor Kitsch as the trio of cops set at cross purposes to investigate the murder and each other.

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When I got engaged in the spring of 2008, I found myself frustrated with the lack of online resources for brides who didn't have a Kardashian-sized wedding budget. I decided to journal my adventures in frugal wedding planning by starting a blog, TheBudgetSavvyBride.com, where I shared tips, tricks and ideas I found along the way to pull off a beautiful wedding for less. Over the last seven years, I've featured hundreds of other weddings on budgets that are less than half the national average of $31,213.

There are countless ways you can reduce the overall cost of your wedding day. Kevin and Rebekah tied the knot in Rixeyville, Virginia, in April and hosted a beautiful event for their 83 guests on a budget of only $7,500. Many of these ideas also infused different aspects of their interests and tastes into the wedding, which made the occasion feel even more personal.

Get creative when it comes to the cake. ALL PHOTOS EMILY SACRA PHOTOGRAPHY

Consider the time of your event

The couple chose to include their love of breakfast foods by opting to marry in the morning so they could host a brunch reception. Not only were they able to offer a generous spread of foods for a lower cost, but they also saved money by booking a venue at an off-peak time of day.

Use fresh flowers sparingly

The bride chose to reduce her floral spend by nixing the bridal party bouquets. The bridesmaids carried tiny glass ornaments that were filled with gold glitter for a magical effect. The only fresh flowers were simple roses and greenery for the centerpieces.

Skip the fancy wedding cake

The couple chose to carry out their brunch theme by offering a tiered arrangement of colorfully iced donuts. It was an absolutely darling detail, and cost them a tiny fraction of the price of a traditional wedding cake.

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Jessica Bishop is a budget wedding expert and founder of TheBudgetSavvyBride.com, where she shares tips, ideas and advice to help couples save money on their weddings. Jessica lives in NYC.

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Buy your dress off the rack

Rebekah found her dress at a bridal clearance sale for only $75, but it wasn't exactly what she was looking for. With the help of a family friend who happened to be a seamstress, she was able to make alterations and additions to transform it into the gown of her dreams. She even splurged on having it dyed a subtle shade of pink, bringing her total dress spend to a budget-savvy $200.

When it comes to your big day, don't be afraid to get creative or include your interests and personalities into your event. You just might find yourself saving money in the process!

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The Breakthrough: Meg Mac

The Australian singer talks about everything from her rising hit song "Roll Up Your Sleeves" to her first celebrity crush. (Spoiler alert: He's a cartoon.)

RACHEL KASHDAN
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Meg Mac cites soul legend Sam Cooke as one of her major influences. PROVIDED

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The Keswick Theatre
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Keswicktheatre.com

Meg Mac, a soulful voice from Melbourne, Australia, has rocked the stage at SXSW and been compared to Adele — and she hasn't even released a full-length album yet. The singer-songwriter's debut EP "MEGMAC," which is full of big vocals and powerful lyrics, gained a ton of attention Down Under last fall, but now she's making waves stateside while on tour with R&B singer D'Angelo.

What's it like touring with D'Angelo?

I feel very lucky and I have no idea how I get to do this. When I was told that I might get to tour with him, I was like, "Oh yeah, that'll never happen!" It's crazy.

What was the inspiration behind your single "Roll Up Your Sleeves?"

At first I was writing it almost as a letter to myself to let me know that everything is going to be all right. Because when I'm feeling upset, I tend to stay in my own shell and not let people help me. I felt so much better after I wrote it and every time I sing it I feel really good.

"Roll Up Your Sleeves" is featured in a promo for "The Astronaut Wives Club" on ABC. What's it like having your song featured in a TV spot?

It was pretty cool, but it's really weird [to watch]. It's cool to see a different interpretation of your song because when you're writing it you never think that it would be used for something like that. But I feel like it matches perfectly.

Who are some of your favorite artists and inspirations?

I like a lot of old music. Sam Cooke is my favorite. At the moment I'm pretty obsessed with Hiatus Kaiyote, a band from Australia.

Who was your first celebrity crush?

You know Anastasia, from the Disney movie? Well, I [imagined] I was Anastasia and I loved Dimitri.

Who's your favorite person to follow on Instagram?

I love The Dogist. I end up looking at the feed for ages, just looking at all the dogs.

What's your ideal Saturday night?

I'm a nerd, so I prefer staying home. I like having a few friends over and eating heaps of food, watching movies and hanging out in my own space.

What's next for you?

I have one show in New York on my own, and then I'm heading back to Australia as soon as I finish this tour.

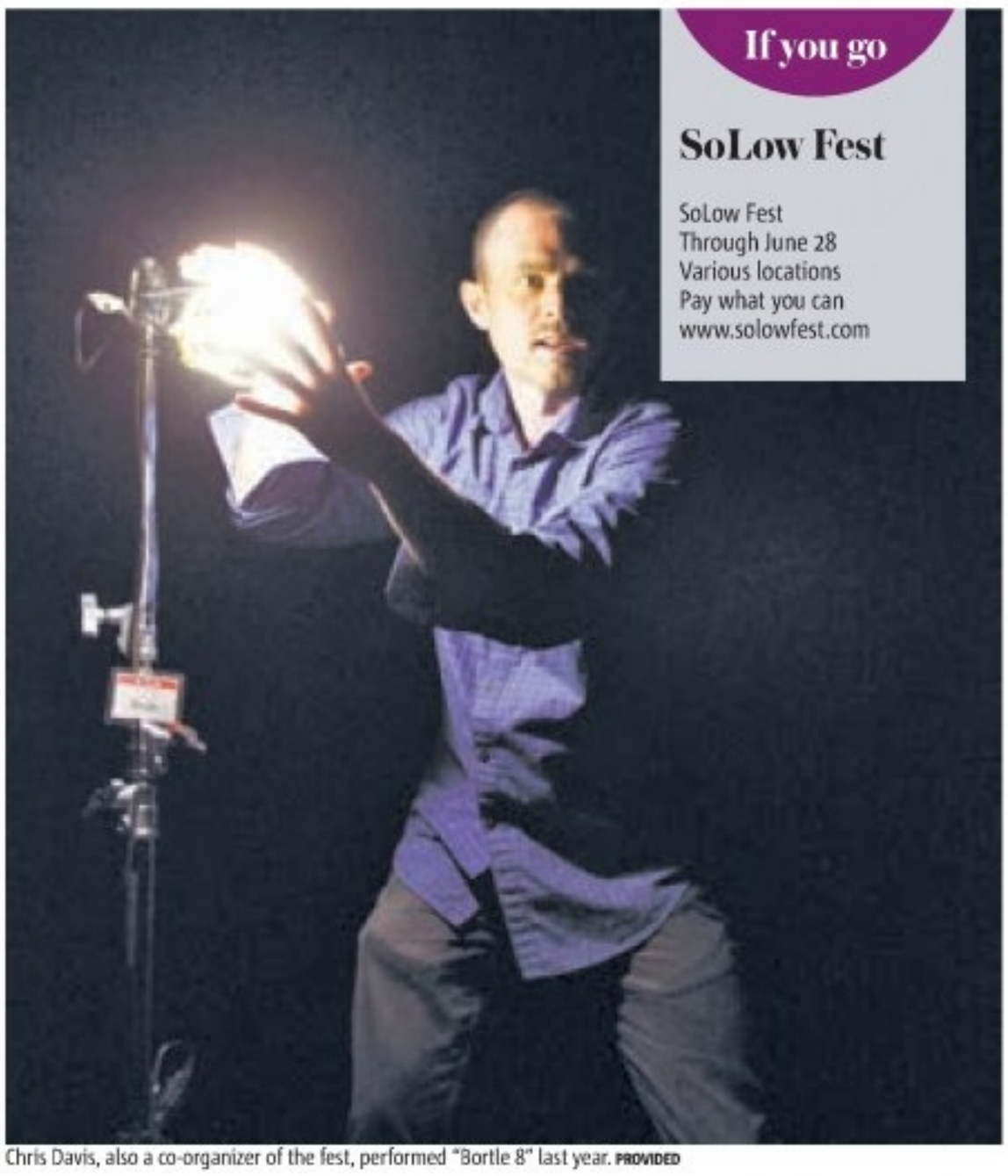
I'm doing a festival and touring out there, releasing a new song and working on my album.

I'm excited to put new music out.

What's your biggest onstage blunder so far?

I've said the dumbest stuff in between songs, making a fool of myself. When I was doing a festival tour in Australia there was one show in a town called Adelaide, but I was at a different show in another town. My best friend named Adelaide was in the audience, so I was like "Hi Adelaide!" and everyone thought that I thought I was in Adelaide and got a bit mad.

Meg Mac is currently touring with D'Angelo, including a stop at The Keswick Theatre on June 23. GETTY IMAGES



Chris Davis, also a co-organizer of the fest, performed "Bortle 8" last year. PROVIDED

If you go

SoLow Fest

SoLow Fest
Through June 28
Various locations
Pay what you can
www.solowfest.com

Art gets personal with SoLow

The performance fest is filled with intimate acts.

CHRIS JORDAN
@MetroPhilly
letters@metro.us

Now coming to a home near you, it's the sixth annual SoLow Fest.

"It's about new works and [being] willing to take a risk," says SoLow Fest co-organizer Meredith Sonnen, 29, of West Philly. "Art is something very personal and it's a window into you. If you sit in a 100-seat theater or see a big production at a Taylor Swift concert, there's not going to be a connection. The connection has to come from the art and audience."

SoLow performances mostly take place in homes, parks — or in a moving car, as will be the case for Nell Bang-Jensen and Maura Krause's "Road May Flood," from June 22 to June 24.

"A lot of times we're in private homes, but we're getting to do more and more traditional theater," Sonnen says. "We're in the Rotunda this year and there are shows happening in theaters. Then you have Kevin Meehan, who will come into your house and rearrange all the furniture in a room."

That would be Meehan's "Tomorrow Is A New Room." "Property Brothers," eat your heart out.

The SoLow Fest features more than 45 works, from now through June 28. It's pay what you can, and as many of the locations are private, you'll need to contact the artist directly for details on how to attend (or when is a good time for the performer to come over to your home). Visit solowfest.com for more info.

Go for a ride

Sonnen's first exposure to the fest was when she rode around town for a performance of SoLow co-founder Thomas Choinacky's "Never Been Stoked: A Traveling Bromance."

"I was in the backseat with two other people," says Sonnen, who now runs the fest with fellow city artists Chris Davis, Lauren Tracy and Lena Barnard. "They were in the front while we drove around for 30 minutes ... It was about two guys who missed each other but didn't know how to say it to each other.

"Then they drove us right back to the park."

Letter to the editor

US needs to heal its wounds

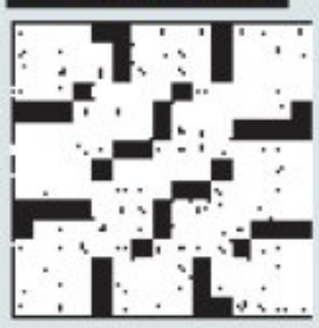
How absolutely heartbreaking, sad and outrageous that a deranged white man murdered innocent black people in a church. It makes me want to cry and holler. My heart goes out to all who lost loved ones. I am sick and tired of racism, this disease that is destroying our country and world. I wish this was an isolated incident. However, when police, who are to protect and serve, kill innocent black people with impunity, and when black people face brutal and systematic discrimination and daily insults to their dignity, it creates a climate where black lives do not matter and violence flourishes.

While most decent people will condemn this violence, our economic and social system is also culpable in creating the kind of racism this man expressed. This racial sickness is in all of us, even if we deeply oppose racism.

The perpetrator is totally responsible. However, I can't help but note that our society is imploding, with poverty, hunger, illness and stress. There is not enough support to prevent people from exploding in violence. People like him attack those whose lives are not valued by the larger society. We need to do everything in our power to heal rampant racism, end the prison industrial complex, shut down hate groups, get rid of guns, and create economic, social and spiritual support for all.

SHIFRA FREEWOMAN

Thursday's answer

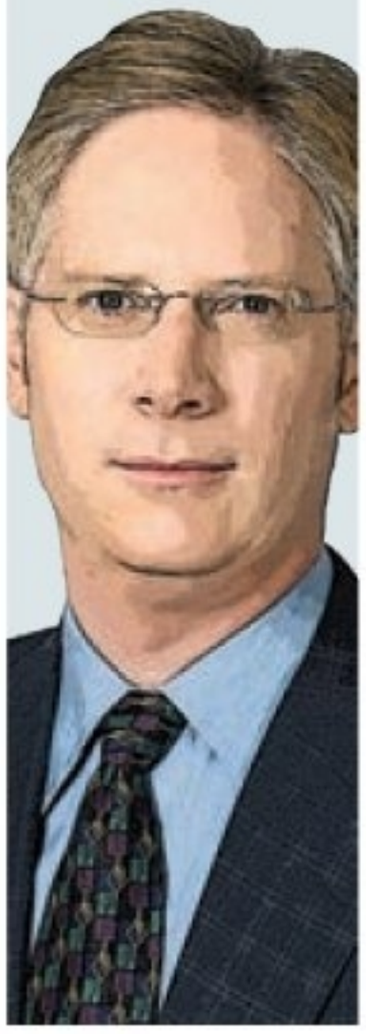


BAD TIMES AT THE OBAMA BBQ

Opinion

TOM FOREMAN

CNN CORRESPONDENT AND AUTHOR OF THE UPCOMING BOOK "MY YEAR OF RUNNING DANGEROUSLY: A DAD, A DAUGHTER, AND A RIDICULOUS PLAN."



"Do you think we have enough potato salad, Michelle?"

"Of course we do, Barack. Stop worrying."

"I can't help it. Things are rocky with our neighbors. What if we run out of food?"

"Or what if a gyrocopter lands in the yard? I'm kidding. Look, we can always send the Secret Service out for pizza."

The conversation probably didn't go like that, but I can imagine there was tension as President Obama prepared to host his annual picnic for members of Congress. After all, his relationship with folks at other end of Pennsylvania Avenue — specifically his own Democrats — has never been worse.

The current point of friction is the Trans-Pacific Partnership, the sweeping trade deal that the White House is pushing. Considering how fast the 2016 race is heating up, this measure could well be Obama's last shot at bolstering his legacy before that long walk into Past Presidentville.

Labor unions and progressive colleagues want nothing to do with it, even as Republicans have sided with the Oval Office. (The staff could probably warm hot dog buns with the steam coming out of their ears over that turn of events.) Which brings us back to the picnic. In other times with other presidents, this might be an opportunity for some friendly banter and gentle prodding.

"Let me get you a cold soda, Senator, and how about you get me a few votes? Heh heh heh."

"Good one, Mr. President!"

However, this president's relationship with Congress has never been like that. Democrats and Republicans alike have long groused about his apparent disdain for the messy work of wrangling votes. Sure, he can be charming, inspiring and a great host, but ask him to handle sizzling legislation and suddenly he's off on an ice run.

Can he still somehow pull this trade deal out of the fire before it is charred to a crisp? Maybe. But it would be a whole lot easier if he'd had a few Congressional folks over for beers, before asking them to help work the grill.

CNN=POLITICS

Sudoku: Easy and hard

	2	7			5		3	
5			4		7			6
	1				3	7		9
						3	7	
		5		7		9		
	4	1						
4		6	9				8	
8			7		4			1
	9		3			6	4	

1			7		3	6		
7			8					
		4	1			9		
	5		4	7	1			
	1		6		9		2	
			5	8	2		7	
		9			5	7		
					8			5
		3	9		7			6

How to play
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Horoscope

♊ Gemini | May 22-June 20
Change is in the air, but if you are too distracted, you'll miss a great opportunity. List your priorities and make whatever is most important your focus.

♋ Cancer | June 21-July 22
Oversensitivity will result in a clash with someone you care about. Don't let anger lead to regret. Make sure your reactions are based on reality, and remain mindful of the views of others.

♌ Leo | July 23-Aug. 22
When someone comes looking for assistance, you should offer your advice but nothing else. If you don't, you will end up tending to everyone else's duties.

♍ Virgo | Aug. 23-Sept. 22
You will have the edge over any competitors you meet. Knowledge is power, and it will lead to success. Guard against unpleasant surprises by preparing for every eventuality.

♎ Libra | Sept. 23-Oct. 22
Deception is apparent. Be wary of anyone pressing you for personal information. Watch your back and keep a close eye on your family and friends.

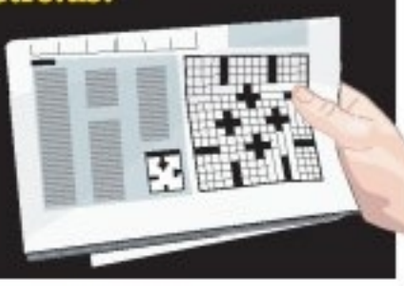
♏ Scorpio |Oct. 23-Nov. 21
Your charisma and charm will win positive attention and popularity. Joint ventures show promise. An intimate evening is in the cards if you send signals.

♐ Sagittarius | Nov. 22-Dec. 21 Don't wait for someone to show you the way. A leadership role will highlight your talents. Get involved and let your feelings be known. You have a lot to offer.

♑ Capricorn | Dec. 22-Jan. 20 Don't give in to anxiety or fear. Reflect on all of the pleasant memories that you have accumulated to date. Take charge of your fate.

♒ Aquarius | Jan. 21-Feb. 18 Don't spread yourself too thin. Uncertainty will dominate your day if you are torn between too many options. You should narrow your choices until you find the one that appeals to you.

Visit us online at Metro.us.
Use your smartphone to find today's crossword answers! Download and open the Blippar app on your smartphone and hold the screen over the puzzle.



♓ Pisces | Feb. 19-March 20
A day of rest will prepare you for an evening with someone special. Make a heartfelt declaration that will bring you closer to the one you love.

♈ Aries | March 21-April 20
You can reduce your stress level through physical activity. Keeping busy will help you forget any aggravations you've been enduring. A youngster in your circle will surprise you.

♉ Taurus | April 21-May 21
Stay away from angry people, and don't get caught up in someone else's personal problems. Meddling in other people's affairs will not be beneficial emotionally or physically.

EUGENIA LAST

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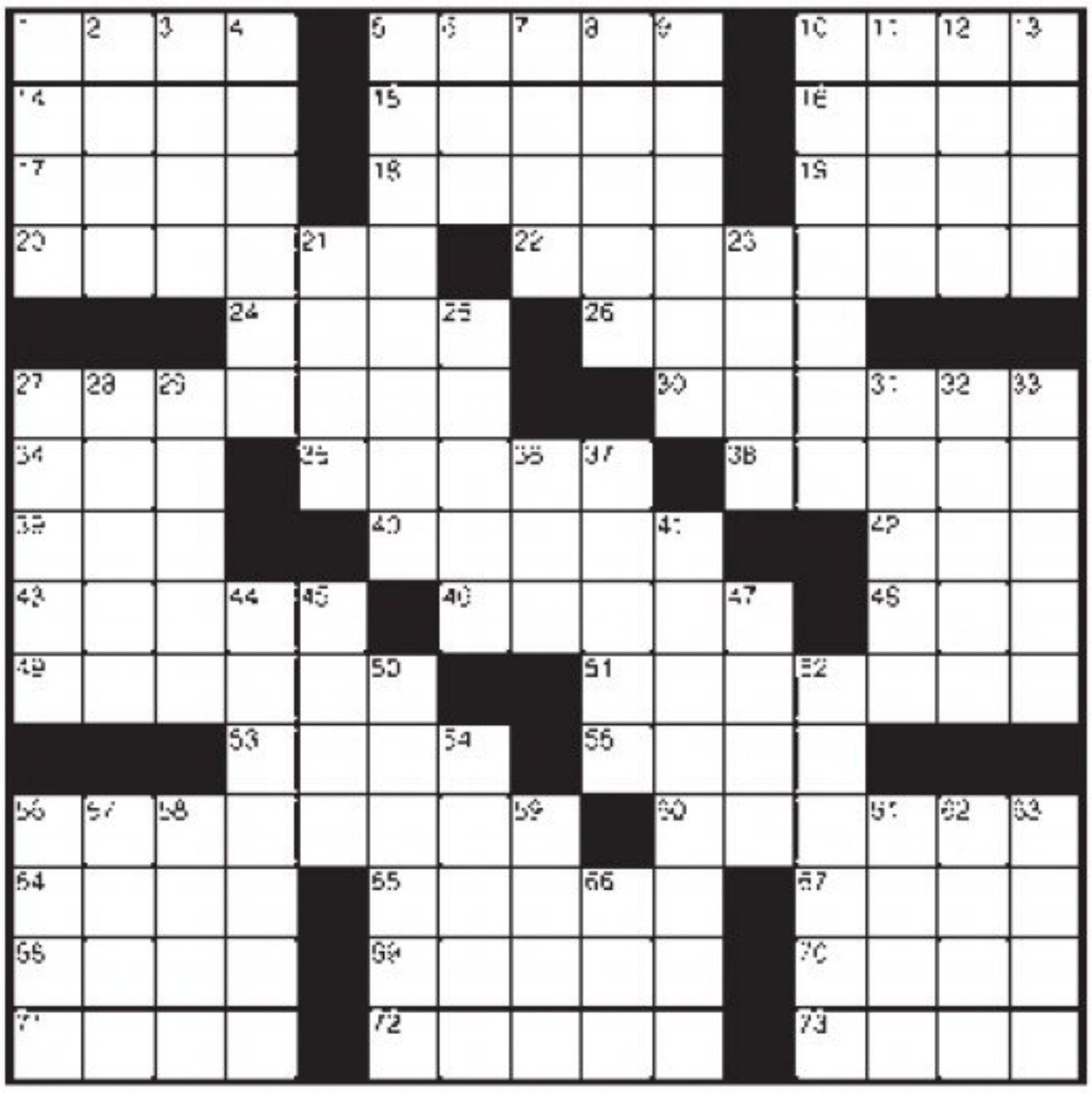

Across

1 Indy winner A.J. —
5 Elegance
10 Not shrinking
14 Statutes
15 Luxury car
16 Jumble
17 Problem with hives
18 In plain view
19 Scoundrel
20 Restrains Rover
22 Omit (2 wds.)
24 Dermatologist's concern
26 Wine glass feature
27 Freud's homeland
30 Baffling thing
34 Rapper Dr. —
35 "People" person
38 Had the nerve
39 Natural resin
40 Stadium noises
42 Primeval
43 Bachelor's last stop
46 Dragging into court
48 Elf-sized
49 Flowed forth
51 Scribbled idly
53 Document of ownership
55 Proof word
56 Name in school books of yore
60 Museum sculptures
64 Whaler of fiction
65 Gene-splicing bacteria (2 wds.)
67 Steer or ram
68 Japanese zither
69 Inert gas
70 Jazzy Fitzgerald
71 Country singer Randy —
72 Street lingo
73 Quantity of paper

Down

1 Paris cop
2 Pledge
3 Kids' org.
4 Top (hyph.)
5 More sleek
6 Gun the engine
7 Eddie's cop character
8 Smokes ham
9 Villa
10 Arty locale
11 Diet spread
12 "Instead of" word
13 Numskull
21 DEA operative
23 Sell
25 Moon rings
27 Dwight opponent
28 Europe-Asia divider
29 Splinter groups
31 Canine warning
32 Brawl
33 Tacked on
36 — de cologne
37 Wedding-cake doll
41 Stifling a laugh
44 Bird pro
45 Shoal
47 Kind of dancer (hyph.)
50 Postpones
52 Attic window
54 Stick-on design
56 Warm-water shark
57 Chuck-wagon meal
58 Turnstile
59 Luke Skywalker's guru
61 Garage event
62 Earthen jar
63 Garment part
66 "Wolf Man" Chaney

3

SPORTS

Future superstar?

Sproles impressed by Ertz

Is Eagles tight end Zach Ertz on the verge of breaking through as an elite NFL player? Darren Sproles certainly thinks so. "He has great hands, man," Sproles said when asked what about Ertz impressed him most. "His hands and his route-running are great really. He's about to be a superstar."

Maxwell perfect fit for Eagles 'D'

NFL. After a lackluster year, the Eagles' secondary looks to be much better as minicamp breaks.

If you had to describe a prototypical NFL cornerback, you would talk about size, speed and hands. You would covet versatility, leadership and experience with a winning culture.

You would basically be describing the Eagles No. 1 cornerback, new acquisition Byron Maxwell.

"When you see him in person," Chip Kelly said of the former Seahawks defender, "you see how big and tall and long he is and what a disruptive force he is. He had a good game against us. If you ask Jordan [Matthews], he would say he was the best cover guy that he faced last year as a rookie."

Philly's Week 14 loss to the Seahawks, of course, began the team's downward spiral that ultimately cost them an achievable spot in the playoffs. Maxwell collected four tackles for Seattle and helped hold the Eagles to just 96 passing yards.

Of all his desirable attributes, his versatility makes him a great fit for the Eagles scheme.

"He started at outside corner but when they went to nickle he went to the inside," Kelly said of the 6-foot-1 veteran. "You saw him cover [Riley Cooper] and [Jeremy Maclin], and come inside to cover Jordan."

Going from being a Legion of Boom member on two Super Bowl teams (one win and one loss) to the leader of a defense that is coming off a year with the most X plays of any in the league, Maxwell says the secondary is slowly coming along.

Quoted

"We are gelling, starting to come along. You see guys elevating play, they are really coming along." Byron Maxwell

"It takes time, to be honest," he said. "A lot of new people coming into the fold right now but it's going to come. It happens on and off the field. Guys have to spend some time together and get to know each other. It's going to happen."

EVAN MACY
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evan.macy@metro.us

Byron Maxwell has lots of confidence in the Eagles' revamped secondary and expects big things from its newcomers. / GETTY IMAGES

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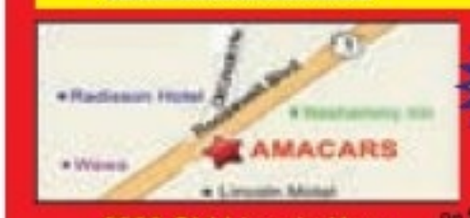

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Eagles' Alonso couldn't be more comfortable in Philly

NFL. Kiko Alonso looks like a tenured veteran playing in Chip Kelly's system once again.

Alonso knows the Kelly system as well as anyone. / GETTY IMAGES

Kiko Alonso has found himself feeling like he's back in college. He's wearing green, he's playing for his former college coach and, most importantly, he's healthy.

"I feel good, I feel great," Alonso said when asked about his status after the last day of minicamp Thursday.

Much of the concern for ACL injuries has been focused on Sam Bradford this offseason. However, Alonso is coming off of the same injury. It's an injury that sidelined the 24-year-old for the entire 2014 season.

That injury didn't bother Chip Kelly.

And so the humble, soft-spoken, third-year pro is coming into his first season wearing an Eagles uniform after he was traded in March from Buffalo for LeSean McCoy. He has been having a pretty impressive spring, looking mobile and athletic, just as he did in his rookie season that consisted of 159 tackles, four interceptions and two sacks in 2013 for the Bills.

Most players are forced to adapt to a new system, which can limit a player's chance to be a starter. Luckily for Alonso there isn't much of a learning curve as he played under Chip Kelly back in his Oregon days.

"It's nice not to have to learn a new playbook," Alonso said. "Now I can just keep getting reps and keep learning."

It's hard to argue that Alonso isn't coming in to start week one against the Falcons. Ongoing speculation since March that Mychal Kendricks will be traded and veteran linebacker DeMeco Ryans coming off of a torn Achilles injury furthers the idea of Alonso patrolling one of the two inside linebacker positions.

"Just looking on paper I saw we have a lot of great players," Alonso said. "Just going out there and competing with these guys is going to make all of us better."

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sports@metro.us

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Pursuant to the Pennsylvania Self Storage Act Pennsylvania Statues, 73, Chapter 26, 1901 et seq., A Public Auction Will take Place on **6/26/15** at the below listed Public Storage Facilities for the follow units/Tenants. The Contents of which shall satisfy the Owners Lien. **Public Storage Located At, 6301 Tacony St Philadelphia PA 19135 at 12:00 PM (215) 333-3138.**

A110 - Turing, Crystal • B129 - Brady, Thomas
C353 - Joner, Michael • D393 - King, Laura

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Janeen Milton • Idalia Smith • Erica Johnson • Avonna Lurry • Celeste Knight
Nina Mcalpine • Sonjane Kelly • Alberto Pacheco • Christina Salgado
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A009 - Parker, David • A056 - Young, Cheryl • A068 - Pertuch, Alicia
A082 - Guevara, Vivianne • A199 - Durst, James • B026 - Lopez-Cedeno, Nelly
B059 - Dougherty, Denise • B068 - Lang, Martin,
B132 - Garcia, Jose • E071 - Brooks, Jocelyn

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David Moore Jr - #494
Victor Lewis EL - #342
Dennies Sealy - #571
Cassandra Langston - #274
Lamar Thornsberry - #449
Francine Nunley - #66
Patricia Holmes - #223
Patricia Holmes - #224
Joan Reese - #135
Teena Walker - #220
Patricia Holmes - #220
Suton Nunley - #394
Victor Lewis El - #542
Ronald Wright - #107
Lamar Desmond Hill - #638
Helena Scott - #652
Anna Catania - #545
Shannon Magee - #161

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Pursuant to the Pennsylvania Self-Service Storage Facility Act, Pennsylvania Statutes, Title 73, Chapter 26 § 1901 et seq., a public auction will take place on **6/24/2015**, at the below-listed Public Storage locations, for the following units/Tenant. The contents of which shall be sold to satisfy the owner's lien. **Public Storage Located At, 1251 Byberry Road, Philadelphia, PA 19116 at 10:00AM (215) 678-8764.**

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Gerald Wall • Annette Gollan • Daniel Livingston,
Sandro Santos • Tim Bahr

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Elayna Andreoli - #1183 • Jay Walsh - #5011
James Stewart - #5131

Public Storage
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A205 - Bartholetti, Stacey • A316 - Renteria, Jill • A535 - Davis, Sharon • A650 - Gallagher, Anthony
A769 - Holiday, Dwight • A872 - Speller, Tara • B1122 - Fetherson, Garris • B1312 - Gerome, Monty
B1316 - Rockingham, Keith • B1403 - Omura, Gregory • B1501 - Raison, Michele • B1537 - Williams, Alex
B1600 - Davis, Quosaun • B1639 - Kennedy-Bardley, Ralph • B1817 - Jones, Latoya • C2406 - Beener, Ikeem
C2804 - Santiago, Jessica

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Birds will hardly get break during six-week vacation

NFL. Eagles players will be at home with their families until training camp kicks off in August.

Chip Kelly, Josh Huff and the rest of the Eagles gang will get a short vacation before camp starts. / CHARLES MOSTOLLER

The NFL has become relevant all year long, with the exception of the month of July. Or at least that's what the schedule implies.

With the Eagles wrapping up mandatory minicamp Thursday, the team has no planned activities until training camp officially opens at the start of August.

"Everybody gets a little bit of a break here," Chip Kelly said. "We've been on it since last August basically straight through, really not a lot of down time from that. Everyone will have time to recharge their battery and spend time with their families."

Kelly says that, but everyone knows he doesn't mean it.

While players won't be at the NovaCare complex for six weeks, and most won't even be in Philadelphia, they will all be working in one way or another.

"I am taking notes," Nolan Carroll II said, referring to his plans for the break. "I will still look at it while I am gone for these six weeks."

"You get ready for the season, you take care of your body," Byron Maxwell added, explaining that he will work out and practice informally every day up until the Eagles meet again as a team to start camp the first week of August.

Kelly is often called a "mad scientist," and he meticulously has his hand nearly every aspect of his players' professional lives. Their offseasons are no different.

"The best part of our strength staff and the sports science group is that they give us a good plan for the entire offseason, and for these next six weeks," Mark Sanchez said. "We got a lot of good stuff on film, now it's time to take a little bit of a break and get back in the swing of things, start throwing again in a couple weeks."

While Sanchez plans to watch film and toss around the football as he enjoys his July, players like Darren Sproles and Zach Ertz have something a little more formal planned. The Eagles pair will train with a group of NFL stars in San Diego next month.

"The pace we have here, we train at the same pace," Sproles said. "Me and [Saints quarterback Drew] Brees will be out there leading everything. There's me, Drew, Brandin Cooks, Chase Daniels — and Carson Palmer comes out there, too."

So while the formal press conferences, practice sessions and film breakdowns will cease for more than a month, the process of battling to win a Super Bowl takes no vacation.

"Still a lot of work to be done," Kiko Alonso said. "We've been getting after it the last couple of months. [So,] keep doing what we're doing, take it day by day and we'll be ready."

EVAN MACY
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evan.macy@metro.us

Quoted

"'Enjoy your time off. You deserve your time off. You've worked extremely hard since April 20, and looking forward to getting you guys back in here on the first.'"
Chip Kelly's message to his players as minicamp broke Thursday.

Quarterback battle

Sanchez, Bradford keep battling

It seems as though we are in the midst of a quarterback battle.

At least in the mind of Mark Sanchez.

Many ponder what will be going on in Chip Kelly's head over the next six weeks heading into training camp. A difficult decision will be made by Kelly if Sanchez continues to impress and Sam Bradford doesn't heal.

"The best player is going to play," Kelly said Thursday during the team's last day of mandatory minicamp. "That's the way it has to be. My theory is the best players are going to play. It's not fair to anyone if that's not the way it is. It's not fair to the players, the staff, the city."

Bradford has been the heavy favorite since coming over from St. Louis. The former No. 1 pick is learning a new offense and coming off an injury. JEFF SMYTH

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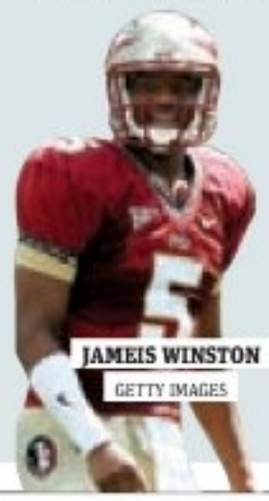
NFL camp risers

Looking good this spring:

- Jameis Winston, QB, Bucs — Reportedly latching on to Dirk Koetter's offense quickly. Has two stud receivers and a soft schedule.
- Danny Woodhead, RB, Chargers — Fully healthy off a fractured ankle, he'll play a big role behind pass-game deficient Melvin Gordon.


JAMEIS WINSTON
GETTY IMAGES

Steven Matz may give the Mets and fantasy owners a boost. / GETTY IMAGES

You missed out on Carlos Correa, Byron Buxton and Joey Gallo. Don't go home and kick your dog — it's not the puppy's fault. Plus, there are more prospects coming anyway.

While it's true the real five-star guys have already been called up, we can still find some diamonds on the farm. These minor leaguers have a good chance to be called up soon and make a big enough impact to be relevant in mixed leagues.

Meet the Matz

The Triple-A's Pacific Coast League is known for wildly inflated hitting stats thanks to the ballparks. So Steven Matz's 2.30 ERA, 1.15 WHIP and 81-30 strikeout-walk ratio over 78 1/3 innings are even more impressive than they sound. The contending Mets would do very well to get Matz in their rotation, especially after dumping Dillon Gee and watching Jon Niese struggle. It's already been speculated the promotion will happen around July 1.

NFL news

Aaron Rodgers carries a lot of weight in Green Bay. This offseason, he's thrown that weight at Davante Adams. Every chance Rodgers gets, he brings up Adams' name as a player with "humungous upside" and one that "has star potential." The second-year wideout will open the season as Green Bay's No. 3 wideout, a role that has often been boom-or-bust. But he's still worth taking a flier on, especially as a handcuff to Jordy Nelson or Randall Cobb. If either of those guys were to go down, Adams would erupt.

Seager bomb

The deeper Jimmy Rollins sinks into the grave, the more urgency there is in adding Corey Seager. Rollins is currently sporting a brutal sub-.600 OPS and .261 OBP — numbers that aren't likely to drastically turn around at age 36. Meanwhile, Seager is the heir apparent. He's a 21-year-old natural shortstop who is hitting .298 with four homers in 166 Triple-A plate appearances.

Just say no

The July 31 trade deadline is fast approaching, with Cole Hamels as the hottest commodity. Once he goes, the Phillies should fill the hole in their rotation with Aaron Nola. It would be a bit unconventional for a player selected in the first round a year ago to start the season in Single-A and end it in the majors, but this is an unconventional season for the last-place Phillies. Nola has been nothing short of dominant on the farm, going 7-3 with a 1.88 ERA in 12 Double-A starts before Sunday's promotion to Triple-A.

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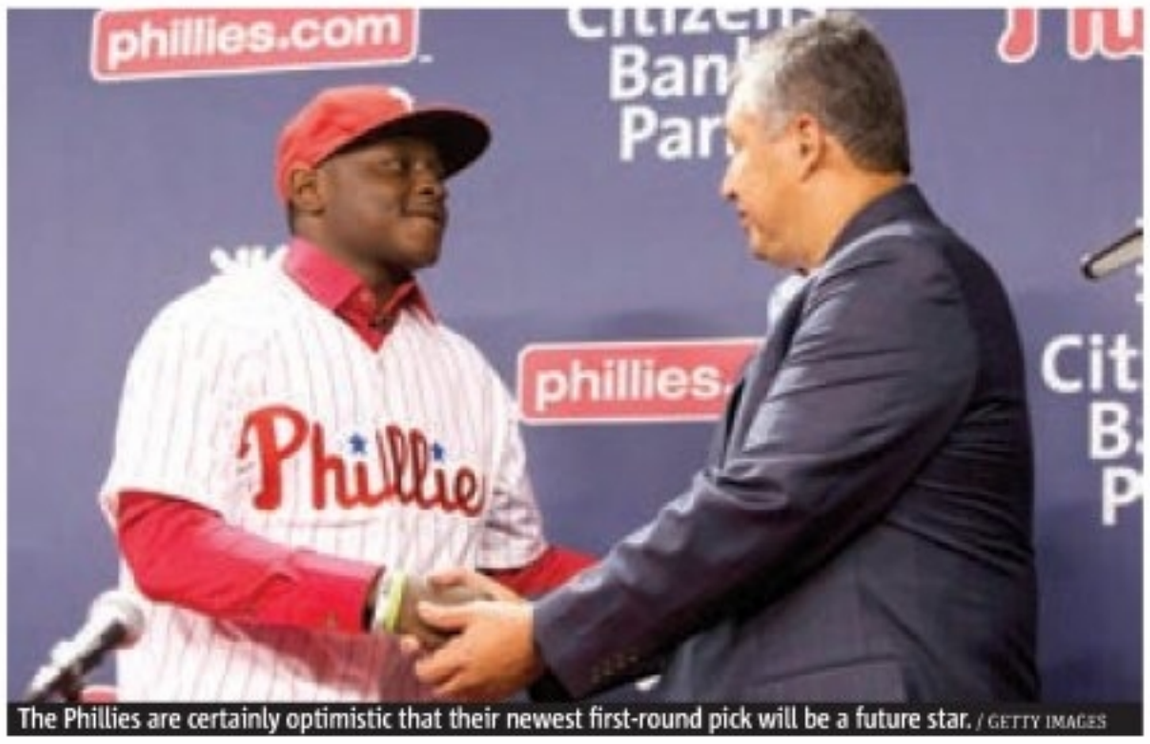
Boras says Phillies' top draft pick Randolph has swing like Gwynn

MLB. With everything else going wrong, the Phillies have high hopes for Cornelius Randolph.



The Phillies are certainly optimistic that their newest first-round pick will be a future star. / GETTY IMAGES

When Scott Boras was asked who he would compare his young client Cornelius Randolph to, the uber agent played coy for about five seconds.

"I really would not like to say," Boras said.

But the most successful agent in the game switched gears after Randolph, the 10th overall pick in the MLB draft last week, was introduced Wednesday to the media by the Phillies after the Georgia high school shortstop was reportedly signed to a $3,231,300 deal.

"I don't want to name names," Boras said. "But his swing looks Gwynn-ish to me."

Boras is of course referring to the late Hall of Famer Tony Gwynn, who is one of the greatest hitters in the history of the game. Gwynn, a lifetime .338 hitter, who never hit less than .300 during a full season, was the finest hitter of his generation. If Randolph has any of Gwynn's extraordinary ability, that would be a huge upgrade over what Phillies fans are currently witnessing. Ryne Sandberg's squad features hitters who possess swings that appear Gwynn Jr.-ish, a nod to former Phillie Tony Gwynn Jr., who is a lifetime .238 hitter.

By the numbers

9

The Phillies were happy to end their losing streak at nine games Thursday after a Ryan Howard two-run shot was enough in a 2-1 decision over the Orioles.

"Cornelius is a special hitter," Phillies director of amateur scouting Johnny Almaraz said. "We're excited to have him here."

The left-handed hitter beamed as his family watched their 18-year-old son meet the press.

"This is amazing," Randolph gushed. "It's unbelievable." Randolph was thrilled to meet Ryan Howard and Chase Utley before the Phillies lost their ninth straight game. "I watched those guys when I was a kid."

Well, Randolph is leaving his childhood behind. He will report to Clearwater for rookie camp Thursday (June 18). Almaraz indicated that the Phillies will probably assign Randolph to the Gulf Coast League Phillies.

"He has such an impressive swing," Almaraz said. "It's a pro-ready swing."

How soon could Randolph, who will most likely move from shortstop to outfield, climb the ladder?

"We're not going to rush him," Almaraz said. "But he has all of the tools to make a fairly rapid ascent."

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Real Estate for Sale

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- FunZone for Children
- Full Bathroom
- Private Balcony
- Fitness Center and Theatre
- Hot Tub
- Boardwalk

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$29,900

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2011 Ford Taurus SE
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$22,900

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Fri, June 19 - Sat, June 20. Plenti is a new way to get rewards at Macy's and lots of other places! Join for free to earn points at one place and use them at another, all with a single rewards card. †Cannot be combined with any other double or triple points offers, including double points on beauty and fragrances. Plenti points cannot be earned or used on fees and services or on some purchases, such as at certain food establishments and leased departments within Macy's stores. To be eligible to join Plenti, you must be at least 13 years of age and have a residence in the United States or its territories, or Canada. Plenti is only available in the United States and its territories. For complete terms and conditions, including a complete list of exclusions, see Sales Associate or visit macys.com/plentiinfo

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ONE DAY SALE

OF THE SEASON

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8AM-2PM FRIDAY & SATURDAY
6 HOURS ONLY! GET HERE EARLY, WHILE THEY LAST!

DOORBUSTER
EXTRA 25% OFF
AMERICAN DESIGNER
Doorbuster 110.63-243.75.
Reg. $295-$650, after 2pm: 147.50-$325. Suits, sportcoats & blazers. Shown: ★ 1837047.

DOORBUSTER **50% OFF**
DESIGNER DRESS SHIRTS & TIES
Doorbuster 24.75-34.75.
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14.99
POLOS
Reg. 32.50, after 2pm: 19.99. **Only at Macy's.** From Club Room and Alfani. Shown: ★ 1888327.

DOORBUSTER
4 FOR $20
TEES
Reg. $15 ea., after 2pm 7.99 ea. **Only at Macy's.** JA John Ashford V-neck and crewneck styles. ★ 1238644.

DOORBUSTER
24.99 UNLISTED
Reg. $60, after 2pm: 39.99. Boat Anchor slip-on (★ 1815389) & Boat-ing License boat shoe (★ 834607).

DOORBUSTER
16.99
CLEARANCE SEPARATES
Orig.* $50-$60, after 2pm: 24.99-29.99. In the Mixing Room. Misses & petites.

DOORBUSTER
2 FOR 19.99
SELECT BRAS
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DOORBUSTER
25% OFF
IMPULSE HANDBAGS
Doorbuster 4.50-167.63.
Orig.*/Reg. $20-$298, after 2pm: $6-223.50. Totes, hobos and more.

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60% OFF
SWIMWEAR
Doorbuster 39.20-46.40.
Reg. $98-$116. From Reebok and more. Misses. ★ 1864189.

DOORBUSTER
39.99
DIAMOND EARRINGS
Reg. $160, after 2pm: $56. 1/4 ct. t.w.‡ rose-cut in 18k gold over sterling silver. ★ 2170069.

DOORBUSTER
$299
DIAMOND EARRINGS
Reg. $1000, after 2pm: $490. TruMiracle™ 3/4 ct. t.w.‡ in 14k white (★ 1146133) or yellow (★ 2104518) gold.

DOORBUSTER
39.99
DESIGNER SNEAKERS FOR HER
Reg. $79-79.99, after 2pm: 59.99. For example: ★ 1129600 & ★ 715653.

DOORBUSTER
30% + 20% OFF
COFFEE, TEA & ESPRESSO
Doorbuster 21.99-715.99. Reg. 39.99-1279.99, after 2pm: 29.99-899.99. Nespresso, #D121USBKNE1 (★ 798342) & Cuisinart, #DCC-2650 (★ 550536).

DOORBUSTER
39.99
12-PC. COOKWARE SET
Reg. 119.99, after 2pm: 69.99. **Only at Macy's.** In stainless steel (★ 707382) or nonstick (★ 713667) by Tools of the Trade.

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70% OFF
MEMORY FOAM
Doorbuster 17.99-239.99.
Reg. $60-$800, after 2pm: 29.99-479.99. Pillows and mattress toppers. ★ 1847297.

DOORBUSTER
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Reg. $200, after 2pm: 99.99. **Only at Macy's.** Spinner luggage: Tag Springfield 27" spinner, 20" carry-on, duffel, tote and travel kit. ★ 1611059.

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SELECTIONS FOR HER: FAMOUS MAKER & DESIGNER COLLECTIONS FOR MISSES, PETITES & WOMEN; DRESSES, SUITS & CAREER SPORTSWEAR

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SELECT SALE & CLEARANCE APPAREL AND HOME ITEMS!
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$10 OFF
YOUR PURCHASE OF $25 OR MORE.
VALID 6/19 'TIL 2PM OR 6/20/15 'TIL 2PM.
LIMIT ONE PER CUSTOMER.
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